

# REPRESENTATIVE DAN ORTIZ

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## **Sponsor Statement** **House Bill 350, "Automate Teller Machines: Fees"**

The intent of this bill is to allow retail automatic teller machines (ATMs) to charge a withdraw fee on transactions made by international bank card holders.

Currently, there is no legal requirement for independently owned ATMs to charge a fee on transactions made by international card holders. Our current law only pertains to ATMs owned by state-sponsored banks or credit unions, and does not include retail and individually owned ATMs. Because of this gap, retail ATMs cannot charge a withdraw fee on transactions from bank cards outside of the United States.

Alaska welcomes millions of visitors each year, with a large percentage of those visitors from out of the country. In the summer of 2016 alone, nearly 300,000 international visitors came to Alaska. Retail ATM owners cannot charge fees on these tourists' transactions. Often, in order to make up for that lost revenue, they increase their fee for those who do pay the surcharge fee, which leads to domestic card users paying a higher fee than international card users.

Multiple other state's have already passed laws to close this gap and allow retail ATM owners to charge a transaction fee to international card holders.